

1918

A Challenge to America's Best Athletes

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SEP 9 - 1918

GENERAL PERSHING
SAYS:—

$$900 \text{ men} + Y = 1000$$



To the offices of the National War Work Council of the Y.M.C.A. there came in May an entirely unsolicited letter from the Headquarters of General Pershing. Contained in it were these quotations:

“Give us nine men *and* the Y. M. C. A., and we will have a more effective fighting force than as though we had ten men without the Y. M. C. A.”

If their estimate is correct—and
headquarters surely ought to
know—then the Y. M. C. A. is
at this moment adding 10%—
100,000 men—to the fighting
power of our armies in France.

Lieut.-Colonel E. S. Wheeler,
in a letter to Gen. Pershing,
said:

“**T**HERE is no one factor contributing more to the morale of the American army in France than the Y. M. C. A. The value of this organization cannot be overestimated. When I come to the Y. M. C. A. huts and see our men night after night and one day after another in their spare moments enjoying the privileges created by a corps of self-sacrificing Red Triangle workers, I know that they are better men and better fighters for so doing. Give me nine hundred men who have a Y. M. C. A. rather than one thousand who have none, and I will have better fighters every time.”

General Pershing directed that Colonel Wheeler's letter be sent to the Y. M. C. A. officials, and himself added this comment :

“**T**HE conclusions and opinions of Lieut-Colonel Wheeler are concurred in by these headquarters.”



Y. M. C. A.
NATIONAL WAR WORK COUNCIL
347 Madison Avenue, New York City

A CHALLENGE TO AMERICA'S BEST ATHLETES



HERE are a thousand men in the United States today who should be in France this very minute, because the need of each one of this thousand is vitally essential to the welfare and success of our American Army and their Allies. These men are scattered among the numerous hamlets, villages, towns and cities of our land. Every one of them is a successful man in his community. Among them are lawyers, captains of industry, clergymen, business men, school and college teachers and professors, farmers, industrial workers, athletic coaches, etc., etc. Every one is a true and loyal American, is proud of it, and is ready to do anything within his power to win this war.

There is nothing of such great importance in the world today as the winning of the war. The very foundations of our Nation are endangered. Liberty, democracy, the things we Americans love more than life and for which our Fathers gave their lives, are at stake.

THOUSANDS OF MEN NEEDED "OVER THERE"



THOUSAND minute men are needed now, this minute, to drop their hoes, their tools, their pens, to leave their law case or pulpit or counting house or office, and to do it now. They are not men who can do it easily, without cost or without being missed in the home or the community. They are all needed where they are, but they are needed a thousand times more "Over There."

These are days when real men are required, for we are confronted with the greatest and most serious task in the history of the race. A thousand men—it's easy—Yes; if any man would do, but any man won't do! It's a special kind of service of great importance and requires men of experience and large capacity. One of the most difficult tasks confronting the "Y" in its War Work is to secure an adequate number of Directors of Physical Recreation for our Army both here and Over There.

QUALITIES



OLD time Athletes, "Has beens," are the best qualified men for this valuable service. Men are needed

—A thousand of them.

1. Men who played when they were young and still retain the spirit of play and can impart it to others.
2. Men who know baseball, football, soccer, track and field athletics, basket ball, boxing, wrestling, etc., not as expert coaches or star performers but as participants on school or college or club teams from ten to thirty years ago.
3. Men who have had experience in organizing or promoting athletics or business. Good team workers who can help make a hole in the line for another man to make either three yards or a touch down, or who knows how and when to make a hit or lay down a bunt in order to win the game.
4. Men who want to do a real man's part in this terrible world struggle and have a vitally important share in winning this war; for **WE MUST WIN THIS WAR** or life will not be worth living to free born liberty loving Americans.
5. Men who are true and steady under every test, who can forget themselves in their determination to serve others.
6. Men of initiative, resourcefulness and nerve, who can stand the gaff of hardship, who will not yield to temptations toward sloth, or vice, or fear.

ATHLETIC RECRUITING COMMITTEE

7. Men with a capacity for friendship, who like men and who in turn are liked by them, who are willing and able to befriend men in need of sympathy, counsel, or a helping hand.
8. Men of Christian character and purpose who are contagiously clean in speech and conduct, with a happy disposition and magnetic personality, with a healthy body, vigorous mind and courageous soul.

AN UNEQUALLED SPHERE OF USEFULNESS

UCH men will find a sphere of usefulness "Over There" far beyond their wildest dreams "over here," for the Director of Physical Recreation is one of the most important factors in maintaining the morale of our fighting men. His program of physical activities safeguards the physical moral life of the men and keeps them fit, like our varsity teams during the training season. And what is of equal or greater value, if such is possible, it is a chief factor in renormalizing the nerve racked and shell shocked men just out of the front line trenches and rejuvenates the convalescent, sick and wounded men in the hospital.

Today we are five hundred short of such Directors actually needed and promised, but not yet discovered, and the demands for such men steadily increase. The Army Officers of our Allies are realizing the great value of this aid to Morale and steadily increase their calls upon us. Our own Army is rapidly expanding. **WE MUST NOT FAIL** and **WE MUST NOT BE TOO LATE.**

THE INSTANT NEED IS FOR ONE MAN—JUST ONE



MEN with a combination of all the qualities mentioned are not superabundant, but the nearer one comes to measuring up, the larger service he can render his country and his kind in this great time of need. One who can average fifty per cent or better can find a place of large usefulness as a Director of Physical Recreation "Over There."

Several thousand men will be needed for this particular type of service within the next few months. Old time High School, Y. M. C. A. or College athletes who are beyond draft age and not of enemy parentage and who for any reason cannot serve in the Army are particularly well qualified.

Several thousand will be needed, but at just this instant the need is for one—just one.

Qualified men who come within the limits of the draft age cannot be sent overseas, but if in deferred classification IV, V, they can render equally valuable service among the troops in the camps in this country.

TYPE OF SERVICE



THE Director of Physical Recreation is not expected to be a physical trainer, as ordinarily understood. He does not perform as an athlete nor officiate at games nor coach teams, but he organizes and promotes both formal and informal physical recreative activities, athletic competition, games, stunts, such as group games, mass athletics, baseball, soccer, basket ball, foot ball, volley ball, cage ball, boxing and wrestling bouts, track and field events, etc.

ENGLISH, FRENCH, ITALIAN AND PORTUGUESE ARMIES NEED PHYSICAL RECRE- ATION DIRECTORS



THE need is not only for men to serve the American Army in both England and France, but the Commanding Officers of the French, Italian and Portuguese Armies earnestly request that increasingly larger numbers of such Directors be sent to their troops, the reason being that Physical Recreation provides vitally needed diversion from the intense strain of modern warfare.

EVERY "Y" MAN ALWAYS
ON DUTY, DAY AND NIGHT
—READY TO SERVE THE
SOLDIERS



THE Y. M. C. A. Director of Physical Recreation is a member of the Association team. While his major duty is along the line of Physical Recreation, his service includes every type of Association usefulness. Every "Y" man stands ready day or night to do everything he possibly can to meet the needs of "Our boys over there."

The War Work Council, realizing that the required number of Directors of Physical Recreation could only be found among all-round athletes of the past, gives every approved Director an intensive course of training covering a period of four weeks. It is of the utmost importance that these men should be thoroughly trained in matters of methods and relationships, both in connection with the Army and the civilians in the country where they serve. This is no time for making mistakes. They are too costly and vital. The trained man wins.

WE MUST WIN.

ENLISTMENT



INFORMATION and application forms can be secured at any local Young Men's Christian Association, or at the War Work Department Headquarters (see page opposite last inside cover.)

In filing an application do not overlook attaching a small photo. *Men having any athletic experience should request the supplemental athletic experience blank and file this at the same time.*

TRAINING



ALL men approved as Directors of Physical Recreation receive a brief course of intensive training at one of the Colleges of the Young Men's Christian Association before entering the service.

1. To refresh their athletic memories and to give them the latest viewpoint regarding games and contests in the Army in War time.

2. To enable them to acquire a large number of new games developed quite recently and demonstrated to be of large value.

3. To condition them to endure hardships.

4. To familiarize them with Army living and working conditions.

5. To train them in "Y" Army methods.

6. To learn as much French or Italian as possible before going over.

DEPARTMENTAL SECRE-
TARIES FOR RECRUITING,
DIRECTORS OF PHYSICAL
RECREATION

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

W. L. Seawright, 519 First National
Bank Bldg.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Geo. E. Stock, 515 Bedell Building

CHICAGO, ILL.

Geo. M. Martin, 19 S. La Salle St.

ATLANTA, GA.

R. C. Cubbon, Y. M. C. A. Building

NEW YORK

C. A. Ruby, 347 Madison Ave.

BOSTON, MASS.

G. L. Listman, Little Building

COLORED MEN

WASHINGTON, D. C.

J. E. Moorland, 1816 Twelfth St. N. W.

THERE are a thousand men
in the United States today
who should be in France this
very minute—because the need
of each one of this thousand
is vitally essential to the wel-
fare and success of our Amer-
ican Army and their Allies.

*Are you one of the
thousand who will
volunteer to enlist?*

Issued by the Athletic Recruiting
Committee of the National War
Work Council of the Young Men's
Christian Association, 347 Madison
Avenue, New York City.